



**COMMUNITY APPEARANCE BOARD MEETING
CITY OF FORT LAUDERDALE
CITY HALL, 8TH FLOOR
100 NORTH ANDREWS AVENUE
FEBRUARY 9, 2022 – 5:30 P.M.**

CITY OF FORT LAUDERDALE

Board Member

Attendance

Ed Murphy, Chair
Stephanie Tonsfeldt, Vice Chair
Jason Hoffman
Lorrain O'Neil
Michael Rigg
Paul Robinson
Patricia Roth
Kathy Schultz
Beth Shaw
Shirley Smith
Miguel Wright (at 5:54 p.m.)
Sally Zubero

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Staff Attending

Safeea Ali, Staff Liaison
Anthea Thomas, Strategic Communications Specialist
Stephanie Wilk, Senior Administrative Assistant
Carla Blair, Prototype Inc. Recording Secretary

Communications to the City Commission

Motion made by Ms. Smith, seconded by Ms. Roth, to have Chair Murphy go to the City Commission meeting to present on what has been happening with the CAB meetings and the WOW Awards. In a voice vote, the **motion** passed unanimously.

I. Call to Order/Roll Call

The meeting was called to order by Chair Murphy at 5:36 p.m. Roll was called, and it was determined a quorum was present.

II. Approval of Minutes

Motion made by Mr. Wright, seconded by Mr. Rigg, to approve the minutes of the January 12, 2022 meeting as amended. In a voice vote, the **motion** passed unanimously.

III. WOW Award Nominations

Chair Murphy asked for any new nominations. Discussion ensued regarding outreach efforts for previously nominated homes.

IV. Old/New Business

Mr. Rigg asked for explanation on how to share the group's posts on Facebook. Ms. Thomas provided a brief demonstration.

Chair Murphy asked for an update on new Board members. Ms. Thomas explained staff efforts to add Board members from District Three (3) and to remove Board members who have not been in attendance.

Ms. Zubero noted a typographical error on the date in the nomination form. Ms. Thomas stated she would make the correction and send the updated form to the Board.

Chair Murphy explained the process of procuring gift certificates from local restaurants for recognition purposes and asked the Board members to work on gathering certificates. Ms. Ali noted there was a sponsorship letter for the Board members to use when approaching businesses.

Chair Murphy stated the Board had been contacted by the Mayor's office with concerns regarding recognizing WOW Award recipients at their homes rather than at a public meeting, noting the Ordinance states recognition should happen at a Commission meeting and indicating a potential Sunshine Law violation.

Ms. Ali suggested the Board vote on a Communication to the City Commission so that staff could write a memo to present.

Miguel Wright joined the meeting at 5:54 p.m.

Chair Murphy noted the Board had not done anything out of malice but was trying to do good things in a bad time. Discussion continued regarding Sunshine Law and the positive intent of the presentations.

Mr. Wright asked how the issue had come up. Ms. Ali explained the discussion which was held at the Commission level regarding the WOW Awards and noted due to the wording

of the Ordinance, the Board should have gotten Commission permission before changing how the presentations were done.

Chair Murphy asserted he believed the Board had done the right thing and stated he would like to attend a Commission meeting to explain their position. Ms. Ali explained the process for presenting a Communication to the Commission.

Motion made by Ms. Smith, seconded by Ms. Roth, to have Chair Murphy go to the City Commission meeting to present on what has been happening with the CAB meetings and the WOW Awards. In a voice vote, the **motion** passed unanimously.

Mr. Wright stated the Communication would be a clarification of the CAB's presentations of the WOW Awards at the recipient's homes, rather than before the City Commission, which may have appeared to violate Sunshine Law.

Chair Murphy added that due to COVID-19, the City Commission had shut down its chambers, where the presentations would normally take place, and went to Zoom meetings. He stated as a result, the Board discussed presenting the awards at the homes being recognized, then spoke to the homeowners and Commissioners and they were receptive, so they decided it was a win-win to move forward in that way.

Ms. Ali noted the Board has been transitional, so the learning curve on what the Board is doing also played a role. She stated the Ordinance requires the presentations be at Commission now, but if the Board feels it should be changed, that is something they can bring up to the Commission.

Ms. Roth stated if in the past it had been at the Commission meetings, they could continue to do that, but it would not preclude also going to the home if that was what the homeowner wanted.

Chair Murphy stated the Board had already voted to make the presentations at the homes, so they could ask the Commission to consider moving forward with a change to the rule.

Ms. Roth asserted announcing the winners at the Commission meeting gives the CAB's work visibility even if the homeowner is not there, so she would want to do both.

Mr. Rigg pointed out the neighbors had come out in a way they would not have at a Commission meeting. Discussion continued regarding the process.

Ms. Thomas explained because the Board is appointed by the Commission, they act on behalf of the Commission, and it is important the whole Commission is aware when they do business on behalf of the City.

Chair Murphy asked if the Board owed an apology to the Commission. Discussion continued regarding public meeting requirements and how it would work if the Ordinance was changed to allow presentations at the homes of award winners.

Ms. Zubero stated she was not sure homeowners would want public notice of a prestation at their homes.

Motion made by Ms. Zubero, seconded by Mr. Wright, to go back to having WOW Award presentations at the City Commission meetings. In a voice vote, the **motion** passed unanimously.

Ms. Ali noted it was her understanding the homeowners who were recognized outside of the Commission chambers would also be brought back for public recognition, so she would make that contact as appropriate.

V. Items for Next Meeting

Chair Murphy noted there would be a follow-up on the Commission meeting at the next CAB meeting and asked for any additional business.

Mr. Wright asked about an update on the Community Appearance Awards. Discussion ensued briefly regarding changes to the categories which had been made and when applications would be opened.

Ms. Zubero inquired regarding potential locations. Ms. Ali explained the Board had decided members would contact locations and look for related sponsorships.

VI. Adjourn

Upon motion duly made and seconded, the meeting adjourned at 6:20 p.m. The next Regular Meeting of the CAB is scheduled for March 9, 2022, at 5:30 p.m.